

In Nature at LCOC

Dear LCOC Family Member ~

If you've never spent time in any of the outside sanctuaries surrounding our church, you are missing an opportunity to feel God's awesome peace and His presence. Allow me to take you on a walk through some of the gardens as we explore what is happening on a breezy day just before Thanksgiving:

- As we pass the Burning Bushes, it is as if they are aflame with their bright red leaves blowing in the wind.
- The dogwoods have dropped their berries and many of them (berries) are laying in an area of the parking lot. Dozens of Starlings fill the trees waiting for an opportunity to partake of these tasty treats.
- We see many of the trees in the wooded area near the pond still adorned with their leaves of gold, red, and orange.
- Yet, the trees that line the drive into the parking lot are naked, but seemed protected by the evergreens that have their backs.
- Heavenly Bamboo are now really decked out for the winter with their beautiful clusters of red berries.
- The leaves of the Oakleaf Hydrangeas are a beautiful dark purple, wine color.
- We see that the irises in the new gardens have been cut back and the beds appear to have gone to sleep for the winter.
- As we continue our stroll, we see and feel a shower of leaves blowing across the lawn and parking lot.
- Our final stop is by the back entrance to the inner sanctuary where we see lovely potted pansies with their smiling faces. We know that deep in those pots are tulips that will emerge around the pansies in the coming spring.

You are encouraged to take a self-guided tour through our wonderful landscape here at LCOC. But be ready - you are going to experience God's peace and presence - so enjoy this special time with our Creator! Next month as winter officially begins, we look forward to all the beauty and activity that we'll find on a walk through the gardens in this season.

“Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree”.

Emily Bronte